



Daily Report—

Sub-Saharan Africa

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21 July 1994

Rwanda**President Bizimungu's Inaugural Address**

*EA2007130594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1057
GMT 19 Jul 94*

[Inaugural address by President Pasteur Bizimungu in Kigali on 19 July—live or recorded]

[Text] Your Excellency, Mr. Vice President of the Republic of Rwanda, Mr. Prime Minister of the Republic of Rwanda, Your Excellency the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, Your Excellency Mr. Chairman of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], Your Excellency the Representative of the UN Secretary General, Excellencies ministers, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

Since 1 April, Rwanda, our country, has been lying in a pool of blood. This has been the result of a premeditated, well-prepared operation, implemented in a cold-blooded and professional manner—premeditated massacres perpetrated by the Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development Party [MRND] and its militia, a section of the Army, the Coalition for the Defense of the Republic [CDR] and other extremist factions. The victims were Tutsis, and there was a genocide of opposition members and their families. All these are crimes against humanity—at least 500,000 have been killed. There were, of course, a few survivors, thanks to the heroic action of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] to which we must pay tribute. [applause]

The perpetrators of this tragedy proudly claim responsibility for their crimes, as if they were only natural acts in harmony with their philosophies. You have heard them, you have seen them, you will perhaps see them again. They have no remorse at all. That was not the first dirty trick played by the MRND power network. Previously, in 1972 or 1973, President Habyarimana orchestrated interethnic massacres as a pretext to staging his coup d'état. The bloodshed by innocent people who knew nothing about politics was thus used by him as a stepping stone to seize power. He also said on the day of the coup that he had acted in self-defense against former dignitaries who were after his life and those of his comrades, thus throwing the country into an abyss. Until today, over 20 years after this event, no one has managed to provide the slightest proof concerning this issue. Murders and lies were (?important) levers for the MRND regime from the beginning of its rule to the end.

The power of the First Republic having been ended, with its men reduced to powerlessness, the crime-thriller could have ended. [Words indistinct] President Habyarimana physically (?eliminated) one after another all the southern officials in the First Republic. He persisted in liquidating the southern elite, particularly those in the Army, whom he regarded as potential opponents. The power of the MRND was born of the blood of certain people—the Tutsis—and strengthened itself with the blood of others—the Hutus. All Rwandans were affected.

Everybody quickly learned that the MRND's system of power was guilty of abominable crimes. Everybody, for the sake of his or her own personal safety, preferred to maintain a conniving silence. The magnitude of power, the cowardice of many of our compatriots, and the silence of the international community legitimized a situation which clearly should have been condemned.

In 1972 and 1973, the world, which had got into the habit of taking our misfortunes lightly, started singing the same old refrains and churning out the same clichés: The Tutsi masters, one heard, are paying with their blood the debt of their haughtiness at the hands of the (?quick-tempered) Hutus. These absurd biases helped solve nothing.

The genocide and the other crimes being committed would not have happened if the cruel acts of 1972 and 1973 and the assassinations which marked the years which followed them had been condemned. Those who killed at that time, and who are the same ones killing today, assumed that the world would continue to ignore their new atrocities, and that the Rwandans would thus always remain [words indistinct] intimidation. They were not completely wrong.

The RPF's fight against the MRND regime's oppression, combined with the protests of the Democratic Forces of Change [FDC], should have brought down this regime long ago. However, the international community imposed power-sharing arrangements, in which the MRND regime, by its very nature, could not find a guarantee for its survival. So the MRND power system preferred to persist in its criminal logic until the end, and thus planned the apocalypse.

These people showed on several occasions, notably by seeking an ill-considered general amnesty, that in their opinion, there was no need for them to apologize for their personal criminal history and that they should always impose themselves by force.

Between the 80's and the 90's, the regime continued to kill [word indistinct] at the speed required by its will to bring the people into a state of almost total subjection. Again, the victims were mainly southern people, for example Dr. (Muganza), Abbot (Sindaduhe), Mrs. (Nyamukarambirwa), and the like. There were also prestigious northern [word indistinct] like Lieutenant Colonel (Baryanga) and Colonel (Mayuya), not to mention the long list of those who, with the help of show trials, were jailed for life—unless they managed to escape—as did, for example, the RPF's Colonel Alexis Kanyarengwe.

Rwandans again chose to compromise with these crimes, every one of them adopting a low profile to go unnoticed. Since the regime's targets were identified on ethnic or regional bases, many people hoped to play their game well by skillfully making use of these factors. Thus, very few Tutsis were victims of the waves of assassinations which hit the country from 1980 to 1990. The Tutsis generally accepted the outcast status imposed on them by the regime. They resigned themselves to their own

fates, while other Rwandans kept to themselves. It was during that same period—in 1992 [year as heard] exactly—that the regime used the Army to shoot at Rwandans [words indistinct], mostly refugees, whom Ugandan President Obote expelled from Uganda. Every individual has the right to a nationality.

Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights says that no one can be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality. This no longer applied to a certain category of Rwandans, who were widely known as having been deprived of that right forever. The fact that these Rwandans were deprived of the right to peacefully return to their country, a deprivation written into certain provisions of the Constitution, was legally, morally, and socially unacceptable. The exclusion reflected another exclusion which was light-heartedly practiced inside the country. [sentence as heard]

All this shows that today's genocide and other mass crimes against life are only the logical result of yesterday's practices. They were not spontaneous. They do not constitute isolated cases unconnected with what was done earlier. They justify a posteriori the RPF's taking up arms to prevent and avert forever the sort of tragedy which has just hit our country, to guarantee fundamental rights to all Rwandans without distinction, and to put a definite end to all oppression, so that our country can become a home for all its sons and daughters, so that Rwandans who were blamed for quarrels or the faults of others and were always the objects of intimidation by certain individuals, can learn that they were only [word indistinct] of certain interests, and that there is nothing to prevent their reconciliation.

What we fought—the MRND system and its accomplices—made a mockery of the themes of national unity, national reconciliation, and respect for human dignity, choosing instead to preach hatred or preach, as happened during the MRND meeting of 22 November 1992, that all the Tutsis must be killed and their corpses thrown into the river, which would carry them to the River Nile. An entire macabre program was (?almost) achieved.

Before that, there were also the 10 commandments of the Hutus, or the decalogue of ethnic hatred, with the so-called government Army defining the majority of the national population—the Tutsis and opponents—as enemies to be fought. There were the repetitive massacres of (Kibilira), the extermination of the Bahimbas tribe of Mutara by the government Army, the extermination of the (Bagogwes), the massacres of (Bugesera), in Kibuye and elsewhere.

There was the setting up of the radio station Radio-Television Libre des Mille Collines—the extremist Hutu radio station—which sought to instill ethnic hatred deep into the minds of Rwandans. The objective was to call for [word indistinct]. There were selective assassinations of political leaders, the targeted massacres of people in Kirambo and Mutara aimed at tarnishing the RPF's

image among the people. All this was perpetrated with the aim of making crimes commonplace as a prelude to the genocide and massacres.

The people were manipulated by such attempts to show that crime can be committed with impunity [words indistinct] ignorance has been a fear often involuntary and irresponsible of this unprecedented national tragedy.

Devoted to the defense of the MRND-CDR fascist clique and other political party factions sharing the neo-Nazi policy of this clique, the former government Army fell into dishonor by participating in and [word indistinct] the killings. The tragedy and destruction that form the background to the new era being offered to our people are immense. We want this era to be marked by democracy, national unity, respect for fundamental human freedoms and rights, and all other universal values that are held in high regard by the world community based on various international declarations and conventions.

There cannot be national unity without reconciliation, nor can reconciliation be achieved while preserving impunity. The government will consequently embark on the delicate and necessary task of ensuring that impunity is not upheld under the fallacious pretext of the imperative of national reconciliation. That is the only way to block the road to other attempts of genocide and other future massacres.

All those who were involved in the present massacres will therefore have to answer for their acts before a newly established and credible judiciary. To that effect, we call for the international community's assistance in punishing the crimes against humanity committed in our country and in carrying out the urgent and imperative work of reconstruction of the judiciary in our country. Public authorities will make sure that criminals do not profit from their crimes.

While stressing justice, public authorities should, through appropriate actions and programs, encourage those who survived the pogroms to exercise forgiveness but forgiveness implies repentance on the part of those who committed crimes. By preaching the new values to them, the public authorities will instill a sincere sense of repentance in their minds. Reconciliation and forgiveness should never, never be understood as a means of exonerating criminals or encouraging genocide or other crimes against humanity. In other words, the crimes against humanity we have just experienced should never lead us to be understood as exonerating criminals, and as encouraging genocide or other crimes against humanity. We must forgive but never forget the apocalypse we have just experienced, or the lesson imposed on us by it. This tragedy must never occur again.

Peaceful coexistence and the strengthening of the nation through respect for others' rights, beginning with the right to life,—a genuine fundamental right—force us to develop a [word indistinct] against evil, in favor of the

values of tolerance and national solidarity. The after effects of the tragedy will last and will have to be alleviated through programs formulated to deal with such consequences. Public authorities, individuals, and associations must be constantly kept aware of the problems of educating orphans and of the problems of the displaced who are in a state of deprivation.

In this regard, the Rwandan state has special duties and responsibilities toward all the victims of the tragedy, a tragedy it was not able to prevent. The new authorities will also have to ensure, with a resolute but nonbureaucratic approach, that the Rwandan refugees return home and are reintegrated into national life.

In regard to the refugees who crossed the country's border under the pressure of the advance of the Rwandan Patriotic Army [RPA] forces, they are in fact among the displaced victims of the intoxication unleashed by the evil forces that incited them to flee. We formally reiterate that their security will be guaranteed and we call on them to return to their homes without further delay. In addition to granting them protection, the government will do everything possible to bring them the necessary food aid, basic services, and health care.

The same appeal to return home is addressed to displaced people in what is described as the security zone, people whose return must be facilitated by those in charge of Operation Turquoise. This zone cannot in any way be considered a special geographical entity temporarily exempt from the sovereignty of the state. The zone is part of the national territory and the government's authority must apply there without any hindrance.

Indeed, given that the mandate given by the UN Security Council excludes the fact that the zone could be used as a sanctuary or as an active base for the fascist government and former government forces on the run, France has no reason whatsoever to oppose any Rwandan official claim to exert its authority in this zone under conditions to be agreed.

Post-war programs will also focus on the rehabilitation of educational and health systems which were both negatively affected by the fact that their supervisory staff have disappeared and also because of the damage caused to these sectors' infrastructures. The efforts to be deployed are huge, and the Rwandan people will have to show an understanding, ingenious, and compromising spirit in order to face these challenges.

The productive sectors of the national economy will also attract the public authorities' most sustained attention toward the achievement of genuine and lasting results. That is why the concept of integrated development programs will replace the traditional development project approach.

Rwandans, the national reconstruction tasks ahead are huge. They are proportional to the scale of the tragedy which hit our country. I would, therefore, like to draw on all your creative energies and patriotic devotion.

To our old and new friends, I would like to assure them that in their spirit of generosity and assistance, they will find in us and in our administrative apparatus interlocutors who are thoughtful and ready to explore any ways and means that are likely to lead to a really useful and fruitful cooperation. We call on the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda to help us carry out our program.

Let us turn towards new values. Let us put a stop to the infernal circle of hatred in which those who orchestrated the apocalypse wanted to confine us. By so doing, Rwanda, our country, will become a home for all its children.

It is with this appeal that I end my address by promising you solemnly that I will be a humble servant in the service of all Rwandans. I thank you in advance for your future support for my own person and for the government team formed by Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu. Thanks. [applause]

President Bizimungu Interviewed on Various Issues

On Unity, Economy, Government

*EA2007170594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1108
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Interview with President Pasteur Bizimungu by Radio Rwanda correspondent Innocent Kamanzi in Kigali on 19 July—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Kamanzu] Today you are called upon to lead this country which has experienced an unequalled tragedy. Can you tell us briefly about the extent of the task awaiting you ?

[Bizimungu] The task ahead of us is enormous. First, there is the issue of reconstructing the national entity, the sovereignty of the territory as well as the population. The people have been divided following the genocide and excessive massacres which were committed by extremists. There is a need to regroup Rwandans by asking some to have a sense of forgiveness, while exercising credible and fair justice for others, calling on some to repent, and instilling new values into those who have been taught fascist and divisionist propaganda. Afterwards, it will be necessary to think about social problems caused by hatred. Orphans, widows will have to be taken care of. The country will have to be materially reconstructed. The task is, therefore, immense.

I would also like to stress that even before the war, the Rwandan economy had collapsed. The balance of payments had been in deficit for a long time, there were serious treasury problems, and economic productivity was decreasing. It was necessary to completely reorganize the national economy. The situation was worsened during the war. Therefore at this level, enormous efforts are needed to rebuild the country.

[Kamanzi] In regard to the enormous efforts you are talking about, Mr. President, do you presently have the material, human, and financial means to achieve your aims?

[Bizimungu] We are optimistic but we are also not blind. Human resources are available. We have the [word indistinct] potential to face the task but we are also aware that the elite has been partly decimated. We have not yet made an assessment but some reports indicate that the University of Butare lost around 100 academic staff members. This gap will be very difficult to fill immediately. Again, part of the elite has been decimated, 0.5 million, and more people [words indistinct] in Rwanda, therefore, there will certainly be a problem of human resources. The few resources we have will have to be used properly but I also think that foreign nations and international organizations are ready to assist us, starting with the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda which is prepared to lend us a hand. The potential is there and it will have to be properly exploited [words indistinct], but in addition to our own means, cooperation, assistance, loans, and so on will be necessary. [passage omitted]

[Kamanzi] In order to achieve all the above objectives, the Rwandan people must be united. In your speech yesterday, you talked about the national reconciliation and unity of the Rwandan people. What do you intend to do practically to achieve this important objective?

[Bizimungu] Let us return to national unity. We do not envisage the partition of the country. Rwanda is a unit and we must rise above the sectarian spirit which brought about the division of Rwandans. We know that after what has happened, coexistence will be difficult but not impossible. In order to facilitate coexistence, it will first be necessary to bring those responsible for the current tragedy to book. That is why we ask for the assistance of the international community so that the criminals appear before the court. That is one of the major conditions. There can be no reconciliation without a sense of justice and equity, and if some people feel like eternal victims while the killers think themselves privileged. [passage omitted]

[Kamanzi] Mr. President, looking at the composition of the government, one has the impression that the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF] took the lion's share of ministerial posts. Therefore, one can ask, if the power-sharing [word indistinct] is genuine currently.

[Bizimungu] I believe the important thing was to form a broad-based government. The composition of the government is such that over 50 percent of the posts are in the hands of parties other than the RPF. I think there can be no more proof of generosity than that. We fought and won the war but we did not occupy all the posts. However, it would be inconceivable for us to pretend that after fighting the war nothing remains to be done. We have offered an opening and have given out more than 50 percent of the posts. That is the maximum limit

for the RPF. Those who are in a hurry to criticize us have not made a deep analysis of the distribution of the posts. The situation is not static. We can offer other openings but the most important thing is, first, to have a functioning government, which is not paralyzed by partisan infighting. In order to pursue the ideal of national unity, democracy, and liberation we must play a role in the government. [passage omitted].

On Rebuilding Army

*EA2007202394 Kigali Radio Rwanda in Kinyarwanda
1730 GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Interview with President Pasteur Bizimungu by Radio Rwanda correspondent Innocent Kamanzi in Kigali on 19 July—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Kamanzi] Recently, a member of the clique which committed genocide in Rwanda said there was no reason for fear. We are also fleeing, he said. We are retreating to the bush. We shall get assistance and soon we shall return and give those people trouble.

[Bizimungu] Let them come back. We defeated them and there is nothing to show that they shall not be defeated a second time. Let them come, we shall do to them what we did before.

[Kamanzi] There is a problem in combining the armies. You say that there are good elements among the defeated soldiers. Some have written, distancing themselves from the clique. Is that alone enough, since they did not do it before? Is that the only criteria to decide whether they are good or not?

[Bizimungu] The fact that they are denouncing the clique, and that they have no reason to be afraid of joining other Rwandans in building the nation, that is a positive step. We welcome this and ask others to do likewise. [passage omitted]

President Bizimungu Chairs First Government Meeting

*EA2107081094 Kigali Radio Rwanda in Kinyarwanda
0500 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Excerpts] The president of the Republic, Pasteur Bizimungu, yesterday chaired the first meeting of the broad-based government. Also present at the meeting were vice president and minister of defense, Major General Paul Kagame, Prime Minister Faustin Twagirumuguru and his deputy and civil service minister, Colonel Alexis Kanayengwe. Two points were on the agenda: What can be done to improve the country and other urgent problems. The meeting's communique is read by the minister of primary and secondary education, Pierre Twigiyema, acting as information minister and government spokesman until someone is appointed.

[Twigiyema] [passage omitted] Due to the efforts of friendly and neighboring countries to help us extricate

ourselves from the problems linked to the current war, relations with these countries should be improved. That is why the president of the Republic and the prime minister, Faustin Twagiramungu, have decided to visit the friendly neighboring countries.

The meeting ended at 0800 a.m. The next meeting will be held on 25 July.

Prime Minister Twagiramungu Details Objectives

*EA2007182594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in Kinyarwanda
1212 GMT 19 Jul 94*

[Speech by Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu in Kigali on 19 July—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Excellencies assembled here, I am pleased to present to you the priority objectives of the broad-based transitional government. They are contained in the following eight points:

1. To restore peace and tranquility to the country.
2. To establish real government leadership and prefec-tural government—that of communes, sectors and cells.
3. To support the unity and reconciliation of Rwandans.
4. To ensure the repatriation of refugees and the return of the displaced to their homes.
5. To improve the people's welfare, and to solve the problem of people orphaned, widowed, and handicapped because of the war.
6. To improve the national economy and to repair the damage.
7. To revamp foreign relations.
8. To reinforce democracy.

Concerning the topic of restoring peace and tranquility to the country, the government will endeavor to settle the following:

1. Ending the war and forming a unified Rwandan Army.
2. Ending the problem of the Interahamwe [pro-Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development militia], the Impuzamugambi [Coalition for the Defense of the Republic youth wing members], and other small groups which caused calamities in this country.
3. Improving security in the country.
4. (?Dissolving) institutions in charge of peace and security in the country, and setting up new ones.
5. Exposing and trying those who took part in the killings.
6. Restructuring the judiciary so that it can achieve total independence and provide real justice to the people.

7. Restructuring [words indistinct].

Regarding the establishment of a genuine government with prefectoral, communal, sectoral, and cell adminis-tration, the government will focus on the following: [no numbering as heard]

Appointing leaders at all levels of leadership in the government, that is, in ministries, parastatals, embas-sies, and foreign organizations.

Appointing leaders and workers in prefectures, com-munes, sectors, and particularly cells.

Establishing technical services at prefectures and com-munes, particularly in the fields of agriculture, educa-tion, animal husbandry, and other services.

Setting up a national inspectorate.

Concerning the third objective—to support the unity and reconciliation of Rwandans. This is an objective which has to be accorded the utmost priority by the government. The top tasks in this respect are as follows:

To enlighten the people on all the reasons that cause divisions in Rwanda.

To eliminate anything that will create discrimination and divisions among the people of Rwanda.

To stop those who participated in the killings and other crimes from leading the people once again. You can thus understand that the advisers and burgermeisters who took part in these crimes cannot resume their leadership at present.

To set up a commission charged with studying national unity and relationships between the nation's communi-ties.

To make sure no one benefits from the crimes he committed.

Concerning the fourth objective of repatriating refugees and resettling displaced people on their properties [words indistinct], we will endeavor to carry out the following:

Following up the repatriation of refugees and provi-sioning them with aid, as well as seeking assistance from international organizations to provide aid to the repatri-ated.

Signing an agreement with those countries harboring the refugees, so that their safety and the security of their properties can be guaranteed.

Amending the law governing citizenship, so that who-ever wants dual citizenship can acquire it.

Resettling people on their properties wherever possible.

Providing alternative housing for those who cannot return to their original homes. Here, I would like to point

out that this will be carried out along with (?changes to) the identification card system.

Regarding the fifth objective—the improvement of the people's welfare and the solution to the problem of orphans, widows, and handicapped from the war. This will be the task of the government, which will mostly be doing the following:

Carrying out the administration of schools and the general development of education, (?providing) teachers, and equipment.

Establishing orphanages that will care for these persons and seek assistance and education for them, particularly by locating the wealth left behind by their parents [words indistinct].

Looking after those disabled from the war and conflicts, in relevant institutions, and to seek assistance for them, so as to enable them to engage in artistic and other activities.

Providing compensation to those whose family members were killed. Compensation will come from a fund to be launched using the wealth of those who participated in the killings and crimes. [applause]

Providing aid to widows from the war and conflicts.

Formulating and improving existing programs aimed at improving welfare, health, living conditions, communications, water, and other basic needs.

Educating and promoting women by removing all educational, cultural, security, and other obstacles against them.

Supporting the youth, through the provision of schools and work, and by enlightening them, particularly in positive political education. I would like to clarify this issue. It is important that the Rwandan youth wake up to realities, so that they know the country's guidelines, instead of basing their ideas on quarrels, hatred, and so forth. It is thus important that such a program be applied throughout Rwanda, so that people can realize that they are brothers, and uproot the spirit of hatred and of killings.

On the sixth objective—improving the national economy and repairing damages. The government will focus on tasks which will include the following:

To provide support to the people so that they can improve their food and cash crops, providing them with tools, fertilizers, chemicals, granaries for their crops, and [word indistinct] markets.

To support industrialists and all other capable businessmen, so that they can continue to develop our country. We want to take this opportunity to tell all industrialists who fled the country and those who are in

what are described as (?security) zones, that the time is ripe from now on for them to return and resume their work.

To support those in the private sector, such as doctors, solicitors or lawyers, teachers, and others.

To support the mineral industry's products for the benefit of the country, particularly precious stones, sand, clay, building stones, chalk, [word indistinct] and so forth.

To support and assist artistic works, and to repair damage from the war, such as for houses, bridges, roads, water sources, electricity and electrical posts etc.

To support people's business associations, education, construction, and activities, such as cooperatives, [word indistinct], hospitals, water, etc; to protect our environment; to study and support a sound habitat policy, in harmony with soil conservation, which can also help in creating other jobs.

Concerning the seventh objective—revamping foreign relations and related [word indistinct], we will uphold the above on the following five important points: [sentence as heard]

Signing international conventions on foreign relations which Rwanda had not signed previously.

Promoting regional trade policies.

Maintaining relations with international organizations, nongovernmental organizations and other organizations which are all beneficial to Rwandans.

Expanding our foreign relations, for example by establishing air links with areas not previously covered, such as South Africa or northern Europe—for example the Scandinavian countries, and even opening an embassy in (?England).

Revoking agreements that were concluded contrary to the interests of Rwanda.

Regarding the eighth objective—reinforcing democracy, the Arusha peace agreements provide for turning Rwanda into a truly law-based country. To achieve this, the government will hasten to establish a judicial and constitutional commission. The latter will indicate what must be done for the proper enforcement of the law by all, so as to restore values to justice and independence to the judiciary. The government will do everything possible to uphold respect for human rights, and will support the [word indistinct] in proposing opinions, whether they originate from opposition parties, people's associations, or private individuals. In this manner the government will be able to serve the people without discrimination, in such a way that even leadership positions within the government will be allocated with regard to the person's competence and performance, rather than by referring to the tribe, area, religion, or party they

might be affiliated to. This puts an end to the policy of ethnic and regional balances. [passage omitted]

French Delegation Arrives for Talks With Government

AU2107131794 Paris AFP in English 1242 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Paris, July 21 (AFP)—A French delegation arrived in the Rwandan capital Kigali on Thursday [21 July] to establish contact with the new rebel-led government, foreign ministry spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said.

She said the delegation, which includes the foreign ministry's general secretary Bertrand Dufourcq and General Raymond Germanos, a senior army operations official, wanted to establish a dialogue with the new government and discuss the current French military operation in Rwanda.

French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe said earlier in a television interview here that it was out of the question for French troops to withdraw from Rwanda and "leave the civilian population exposed to the mercy, again, of who knows which militia or the threat of a renewed massacre."

Zaire

Mobutu Interviewed on Rwandan Exiles, Opposition

LD2007150694 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Interview with President Sese Seko Mobutu by Assane Diop in Kinshasa on 18 July—first paragraph is announcer's introduction]

[Text] [Announcer] The Rwandan conflict is the main theme tackled by the Zairian head of state, who is our guest today. It was on Monday the day after the shelling of Goma airport from Rwanda, that President Mobutu received our special correspondent in Kinshasa, Assane Diop. Assane Diop asked the Zairian head of state what he intended to do with the members of the ex-Rwandan Government, who are now in Zairian territory, some of whom are allegedly responsible for massacres. Here is President Mobutu's answer:

[Begin recording] [Mobutu] Hand them over? But on what grounds? There has to be what I would call a firm legal basis, and in situations like this, I am not asking us to go back to the time of the flood, but we have to start from the beginning. Who shot down the plane of President Habyarimana? We have to know. And this is what I have been demanding since the day after the attack: an international inquiry. This hasn't yet been held, and yet we are already being told who is guilty. On what grounds?

[Diop] Would you agree to discussions with the new strong men in Kigali today, namely the leaders of the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF]?

[Mobutu] I have always been in contact with the military and political leaders of the RPF, in Gbadolite, in Kinshasa, and I am always open. But—there is now a but after what happened on Sunday 17 July in Goma—if my people are hit as has happened, then there will have to be a stop put to it by all possible means, and Zaire will no longer be able to resist.

[Diop] Can it relaunch its project of holding sub-regional [sous-regional] meetings?

[Mobutu] By all possible means. This is the only way that will enable Rwanda to recover its stability, in other words the road to peace.

[Diop] The Turquoise [French] force has rear bases in three big towns in Zaire, and people are saying that for you it is an easy way of improving your public image, on the back of the Rwandan tragedy. What is your reaction to this?

[Mobutu] Is there anything that people do not say when President Mobutu is the subject? When I was contacted to help France intervene to help Rwanda on the humanitarian front, I did not hesitate, because people thought that the African countries were doing absolutely nothing, and, being involved with this problem, I could not hesitate when faced with the French Government's request. I did this without haggling and without ulterior motives, and it is your duty, and I would even say your responsibility, as a French journalist working in France, to put questions to anyone who might know, to tell you if it brought in even a single centime for Zaire, not a single centime. We did not haggle over what we did.

[Diop] If the French leave in August and the problem remains unchanged, and there is a second United Nations mission, will you welcome them in the same way?

[Mobutu] Why not? Why not?

[Diop] There is a new transitional government in Zaire, headed by Leon Kengo wa Dondo, who was elected by the High Council of the Republic-Transition Parliament. What margin of maneuver will this new government headed by Kengo have, now that Tshisekedi is no longer officially prime minister?

[Mobutu] It isn't my role to heap praise on Kengo, but I think it is a good thing, and a very good choice on the part of our transition parliament.

[Diop] Will this government have the task of arranging elections, for example?

[Mobutu] Of course. This is envisaged in the constitutional act, particularly in the special arrangements.

[Diop] Would you agree to hold discussions with Mr. Tshisekedi if he so wished, for example? Since he is spoken of as the great rival of President Mobutu?

[Mobutu] I have always been, and I still am, a man of dialogue. I love holding dialogues. If he wants to see me, I am ready to meet him at any time and to exchange ideas with him.

But what worries me is something I read last year in LE MONDE of 22 April 1993, a passage from an interview he gave, saying that the Zairian people don't want elections, and that we must organize and run the country without elections. That frightens me. As far as I am concerned, elections are essential. Because Zaire has the right to be governed by its own elected representatives. For me this is a sacred principle. [end recording]

President Mobutu, Cabinet Discuss Objectives

AB2107091594 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1230 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Communiqué on cabinet meeting issued in Kinshasa on 20 July]

[Text] In line with the provisions of Articles 80 and 85 of the transitional constitution, the head of state who just signed the protocol agreement on the negotiations of the Palais du Peuple, was officially introduced to the transition government led by Leon Kengo wa Dondo. The head of state presided over the first consultative meeting today between his institution and the government. While congratulating the members of the government and especially the prime minister for their civic-mindedness which led to the opening of his government to all political groups, the head of state expressed satisfaction with the political class which finally succeeded in giving the country stable institutions that are the guarantors for a peaceful transition and protection from conflicts. The discussions focused on the policy speech made by the prime minister which the head of state totally supported.

However, for this first session the head of state gave some personal reflections followed by recommendations. The recommendations are threefold and are intended to be objectives attained by the government. First, the organization of free and fair elections. No peace, no development is possible without the establishment of an atmosphere of judicial and political security in the country.

Therefore, the democratic process that started four years ago should be pushed to the end by rapidly organizing elections. On this issue, the president of the Republic presented to the government a draft election timetable. This project should be implemented in line with the preambles defined by the political class in the protocol agreement.

The second objective Marshal Mobutu defined was the restoration of the internal and external prestige of the country. Though the measures already taken by the

government were totally supported by the president, Marshal Mobutu nonetheless urged the Kengo team to press forward and establish the good image of our great country.

It is true that the international community endorses the new government, it is true that the mediation action undertaken on the Rwandan issue and the everlasting Angolan conflict more and more show the active presence of Zaire on the international scene. But the mind poisoning campaign orchestrated against Zaire by some countries had taken such an interfering and undermining dimension, that we should redouble our efforts in order to look better and to feel better. Here, the role of information and the media is essential. While supporting the measures protecting freedom of public media already taken by the government, the head of state encourages all efforts aimed at making our national media—press, and radio and television—the reflection of a mature democracy.

Replying to the head of state's recommendations, the prime minister and head of government were pleased at Mobutu's total support for his government, his program, and actions undertaken so far. By installing the prime minister on 16 June, the nominating the members of government on 6 July, signing the draft agreement, and chairing today's cabinet meeting the head of state has shown he will be very involved in the current democratic process.

As for the government, it has fully endorsed the legal provisions and the consultations at the Palais du Peuple in order to promote the spirit of collaboration and dialogue among the institutions and to discard any dispute concerning the transitional process. The government has accepted the challenge to work and surpass itself to find desired solutions to steer the country away from trouble. The objectives of the president of the Republic are also those of the government team: elections which must be quickly organized, Zaire's internal and external credibility which must be rapidly restored, and cleansing the social environment to ensure an atmosphere of respect for the transitional constitution and the draft agreement on the willingness of the national political class.

Marshal Mobutu appealed to the government on the need and urgency to stabilize the economic and social situation in the country. How can elections be held without economic recovery and social security being guaranteed? Health, education, and salaries should be the daily concern of the present government. The earmarking of a substantial part of the budget for this key health sector is a necessity. For example, only 2 percent of the national budget is devoted to health. This is one of the lowest rates in Africa south of the Sahara. Zaire should be able to rapidly cross the minimum threshold of 5 percent.

On the other hand, arresting the economic and social degradation in the country must remain the core of

government action, through the rational management of the public finance, trade balance, the implementation of a policy of productivity incentive in all the sectors, mainly in the mineral resources and agriculture. Furthermore, the government should rapidly adopt appropriate measures to stop the degradation of the monetary system by reorganizing the financial and banking systems in the country.

Regarding the Rwandan tragedy and the current situation in the east of the country, Marshal Mobutu approved the government attitude and claimed responsibility for the statement made public by the government.

Finally, the head of state urged the government to join him in strengthening the cooperation between their two institutions for the greater benefit of the ongoing democratic process and asked cabinet members to cultivate the feeling of collective responsibility by remaining united and behaving properly in the exercise of their duties.

Defense Minister Mudima Returns From Angola

AB2007222394 Kinshasa Tele-Zaire Television Network in French 1230 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Defense Minister Admiral Mavua Mudima has returned from Cabinda Enclave, where he took part in preparatory work for a summit between the Zairian and Angolan heads of state. It should be noted that the Zairian delegation went to Cabinda at the invitation of the Angolan Government. Here with the details is Val-Jean Mewemba Kashala:

[Kashala] [Words indistinct] at the beginning of the month, they also tackled the issue of the current situation in Angola, which shares a very long border with Zaire. The two sides had to agree on an efficient security policy for both countries, in order to cut short rumors, according to which our country is supplying weapons to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which is also said to have the support of Zaire. Not only does Luanda refuse to give credit to these allegations, but the two heads of state also agreed to look deeper into this issue with a promise to meet again around a negotiating table. These issues will be studied by the Angolan and Zairian defense ministers. On the Zairian side, Admiral Mavua Mudima and Angolan Defense Minister Pedro Maria Pedale Tonha, (?visited the capital).

The two-day preparatory meeting in Cabinda, at the initiative of the Angolan Government, ended with the publication of a final communique. After an exhaustive and fruitful analysis of the current state of our bilateral relations, the ministerial meeting agreed on the recommendations to be submitted to the two heads of state for examination and adoption. The communique further stated that the meeting was held in a spirit of frankness, brotherhood, and mutual understanding.

The members of the Zairian delegation expressed gratitude to the Angolan Government, and especially to the governor of Cabinda, for the warm welcome accorded them during their stay in Angola.

Cholera Epidemic Breaks Out Among Rwandan Refugees

AB2107130694 Paris AFP in English 1127 GMT 21 Jul 94

[By Joseph Gouala]

[Excerpts] Goma, Zaire, July 21 (AFP)—Cholera has broken out among the hordes of Rwandans fleeing into eastern Zaire, killing at least 800 people in the last 36 hours as it decimates refugees at the rate of "one per minute," relief workers said Thursday [21 July].

A Doctor for the Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) humanitarian group in this border town, Jannes Van Der Wijk, said at least 800 Rwandan refugees had already died, "without any doubt" from the disease. An MSF spokesman in Brussels, Georges Dallemande, said samples of stool sent to Paris from Goma for analysis confirmed the presence of the cholera bacteria.

"Cholera is killing one refugee a minute," Dallemande said. "As far as I can remember, we have never seen a more devastating and deadly epidemic."

"Tens of thousands could contract the disease in coming hours and days."

Relief workers along the border here said hospitals and makeshift emergency facilities were overwhelmed with hundreds of people.

Van Der Wijk said dozens of corpses lined the road into Goma and Kibumba camp north of the city. Other corpses lie right outside the entrance to Goma hospital, dead from the effects of diarrhea or dehydration. [passage omitted]

The cholera victims added to the stench of death hanging over Goma, where even the bodies of those killed in Sunday's mortar attack on Goma or trampled to death in the resulting panic have not all been buried yet.

The refugees started fleeing last week from the advancing rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), which now controls the country and has set up a new government in Kigali. [passage omitted]

The scale of the humanitarian crisis has overwhelmed aid workers. Operations director for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Filippo Grandi on Thursday said his team could only cover the needs of less than 20 percent of the more than one million Rwandan refugees in the Goma area alone.

Grandi urgently appealed for help from donor governments, but said UNHCR wants to maintain control over coordination "to avoid political bias."

"We are struggling with our few means, but even with full means, we're not able to face the situation."

He said the UNHCR urgently needs airport equipment, 300 trucks, at least 50 tank trucks, cooking fuel, crews to clear roads, set up camps sites and put up 60,000 latrines. These must arrive in Goma in "two or three days" to make a difference, he said.

Grandi estimated that 500 tonnes of food per day were needed for the Goma region, and another 750 tonnes for

the humanitarian safety zone for refugees set up by the French troops in southwestern Rwanda.

French military officials have estimated some 1.4 Rwandans had fled to the safety zone.

UNHCR spokesman Panos Moumtzis in Goma on Thursday said another 250,000 Rwandan refugees—fewer than initial estimates—had also fled to the Zairean border town of Bukavu, 120 kilometers (75 miles) south of Goma.

Ethiopia

'Terrorists' Said Trained in African Countries

NC1907113094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Mogadishu, 19 Jul (MENA)—African diplomatic sources have revealed that the extremist Union [al-Ittihad] [...] further identified] group has recently stepped up its activities in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, and Djibouti. The sources warned that all-out fighting might erupt between this group and the population in Ethiopia's Ogaden region, who refuse to use force to secede from Ethiopia and establish an independent state.

According to a MENA correspondent, Ethiopian and Somali citizens have said they have seen camps set up for training Union members in terrorist activities in various Somali districts and Ethiopia's Ogaden.

Muhammad Ujas Muhammad, an Ethiopian civilian pilot of Somali origin, said that extremists belonging to terrorist groups in several countries are supervising the training in these camps, which are piled full of weapons. He said that the Union group had killed 500 civilians and opposition politicians in the Ogaden region this year.

Pilot Muhammad affirmed that the terrorists had planted mines on roads and at the facilities of international oil companies, causing a halt in oil exploration in the region and halting construction of 25 UN-sponsored schools to aid local residents in the field of education. Muhammad Ujas pointed out that the Union group had set up a number of military bases in Mogadishu, Kismayu, and Gidu.

Ogaden citizen Muhammad Jalal said that the Union group triggered a civil war to block the ongoing dialogue between the region's commanders and intellectuals on the one hand and Ethiopian authorities on the other—talks aimed at drafting a new constitution for the Ogaden region and enabling it to rid itself of the backwardness imposed on it by the Marxist feudal regime.

The MENA correspondent has obtained a circular sent by Mohamed Farah Aidid's Somalia National Alliance instructing the Alliance's military commanders in Somalia and Ogaden to send weapons, ammunition, and armored cars to Union groups inside Ogaden to help them in their fight against the Ethiopian Army and opposition groups.

The circular, the MENA correspondent said, notes that Aidid has obtained military assistance for the Union group from Sudan and Iran. The leaflet stresses the importance of the alliance between Aidid's Jarjada tribe and the Union group in confronting Ali Mahdi Mohamed's Jawadli tribe, deposed President Mohamed Siad Barre's al-Murayhan tribe, and any other tribe in Ethiopia and Somalia. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Aidid Expresses Regret Over Attack on UN Troops

EA2007204594 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Excerpts] The leader of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and chairman of the United Somali Congress, Mohamed Farah Aidid, today spoke about the current security situation in the country and other critical issues. Mr. Aidid said significant strides had been made in reaching peace among various Somali communities and in the country as a whole. [passage omitted]

Mr. Aidid said that recent minor skirmishes which occurred in Mogadishu were the work of a few opportunists, but that fortunately enough the skirmishes had died down. He said that the citizenry were opposed to another outbreak of fighting in the country, therefore, it is the duty of all peace lovers to oppose warmongers and their stooges. [passage omitted] Aidid said that all those who are involved in activities directed at inciting the people should be confronted by all peace-loving citizens.

Regarding the 18 July incident, when the United Nations Operation in Somalia [UNOSOM] soldiers were attacked, Aidid said the attack was a regrettable incident, that it was the work of bandits who were on the payroll of warmongers. He hailed the residents of Xoriyo, who came to the aid of the UNOSOM soldiers.

Aidid, speaking in the name of the SNA, sent a message of condolence to the government and people of Malaysia. He said it was the duty of all citizens to search and bring to book the bandits behind the attack. Aidid said paying a ransom should not be allowed or encouraged, since this would set a dangerous example to other criminals and bandits. [passage omitted]

He said it was the desire of all Somalis to have peace and a government of national unity. He added that negotiations were going on between various communities toward the realization of that goal. He appealed to all Somali citizens to extend full support to movements which took part in the struggle to overthrow the Barre regime, and to sideline other reactionary movements who did not enjoy the support of the broad masses of Somalis. He also appealed to all Somalis to make frantic efforts to set up a government of their own, adding that the current situation in Somalia was brought about by the vacuum created by the lack of a legitimate government. He prayed that Somalis would see sense and foster brotherhood and unity among themselves. Aidid finally appealed to Somalis to guard against reactionaries and elements of instability in the country.

Aidid, UN Envoys Meet in 'Very Good Atmosphere'

EA2007210094 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of
the Great Somali People in Somali 1100 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Mohamed Farah Aidid, the Somali National
Alliance chairman who is also the United Somali Con-
gress chairman, yesterday received in his office Victor

Ghebo, the UN envoy to Somalia, who was accompanied
by Lansana Kouyate, the former UN envoy. The report
says the two sides discussed the incident involving
bandits, which took place in the Xoriyo district of
Mogadishu. The two sides also touched on investigating
the causes of the incident. The meeting took place in a
very good atmosphere. [passage omitted]

London Ceremony Held for Return Into Commonwealth

MB2007204494 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Italicized passages in English]

[Excerpt] Thousands of people today had to be turned away from Westminster Abbey where a service was being held to welcome South Africa back to the Commonwealth. South Africa's readmittance has been widely welcomed. This report from Cliff Saunders.

[Saunders] Shortly before 12 o'clock the dignitaries began arriving for the service and were welcomed at the main entrance. A guard of honor was formed by the crew of the visiting SAS Drakensberg. The climax was the arrival of Her Majesty, the queen mother.

Soon after the dignitaries had taken their seats, the deacon of Westminster, Mr. Michael (Maine), reminded the audience that South Africa's readmittance to the Commonwealth has been a long and difficult road and that many people had experienced suffering. The new South African flag, now fast becoming known worldwide, was handed by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki to the general secretary of the Commonwealth.

[Mbeki] *Mr. Secretary General, I present to you this flag to mark the return of the new South Africa to the association of free and equal nations which constitute the Commonwealth.*

[Emeke Anyaoku] *Mr. Deputy President, I receive this flag of the new South Africa in joy and thanksgiving that South Africa is once more within our family of nations. [singing of South Africa's anthems]*

[Saunders] The main speech was delivered by Archbishop Desmond Tutu. He emphasized that the changes in South Africa have been assisted greatly by the international community.

[Tutu; in progress] ...and let's bear so much in mind the remarkable courage of a De Klerk, and the magnanimity and lack of bitterness of a Nelson Mandela finally brought this beautiful land, God's own country, to her senses, and like the prodigal, she is returning home. [passage omitted]

Justice Minister President During Mandela's Trip

MB2007152294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1437 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Pretoria July 20 SAPA—Justice Minister Dullah Omar will act as president during President Nelson Mandela's three-day state visit to Mozambique, a statement by the Office of the President said. Mr Omar was sworn in as acting president on Wednesday [20 July] afternoon in Bloemfontein.

Minister Urges Lifting Natal State of Emergency

MB2107132094 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Ulundi—National Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi said yesterday the state of emergency in KwaZulu/Natal should formally be lifted.

Speaking after a meeting with provincial police MEC [member of executive committee] Celani Mtetwa and KwaZulu/Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose, Mr Mufamadi said this was necessary to demonstrate the will of the new government of national unity.

He said constitutionally the emergency had lapsed and the public could expect to hear announcements as to what police would do on the ground to contain violence in the absence of the emergency regulations.

Mr Mufamadi also announced a number of meetings in the region to address police grievances and violence.

The Minister said he and the Rev Mtetwa would travel to the province's south coast area of Port Shepstone to meet the community and police in an attempt to address violence there.

"Rev Mtetwa and myself will ensure that the quality of service is commensurate with the problems experienced by the people there," he said.

The Minister said he would also meet local police to discuss with them how best they felt they could address problems in the violence torn area.

Mr Mufamadi also announced two mass meetings of police north and south of the Tugela River, to be held "as a matter of urgency" in Durban and Ulundi respectively.

The main reason behind this was to discuss the amalgamation of the KwaZulu Police [KZP] as one of 11 police agencies in the country with the new South African Police Service.

It was "necessary and crucial" that all police members contributed to the amalgamation process and were given the opportunity to raise their concerns and expectations, he said.

"This will help the government to ensure that men and women on the ground are sufficiently motivated to deliver the service the community expects from them".

The Minister said he would push to have the new Police Act promulgated at the next sitting of Parliament, and so assist the amalgamation process.

Mr Mufamadi said he hoped the process of amalgamation would also get rid of issues which gave rise to recent strikes in the KZP.

Asked whether yesterday's meeting had touched on investigations into alleged KZP hit squads and the resistance of some communities to the former homeland force, Mr Mufamadi said not specifically.

He said he was looking forward to the normalisation of relations between the public and police, but added that community policing would be improved with the formation of police community liaison forums which would help in identifying police priorities.

Meanwhile, Mr Mtetwa said the strikes, experienced recently in Durban's Umlazi township, would be addressed by his office when a committee of disgruntled police officers made a report to him.

Dr Mdialose described yesterday's meeting as "very frank. There were no issues that were left unattended to".

KwaZulu Police Commissioner Reportedly Resigns

*MB2107144794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1323
GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] Durban July 21 SAPA—KwaZulu Police [KZP] commissioner Lt-Gen Roy During, disenchanted with the politics and intrigue which have beset his force, has apparently resigned. The retired South African Police officer, who is presently on leave, discussed his resignation with a local newspaper serving his district.

In an interview with the ZULULAND OBSERVER, Gen During, 59, who once initiated investigations into alleged criminal activities in his own force, said he'd "had a guts full". Gen During, who previously indicated he was planning to retire, was said to have been particularly upset with recent labour uprisings within the former KZP over pay grievances.

Gen During could not be reached to discuss his resignation and his deputy, Maj-Gen Sipho Mathe, referred all enquiries to the KwaZulu/Natal Police MEC [member of the executive committee] Celani Mtetwa, who was not available.

Earlier this week national Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi announced two mass meetings of police north and south of the Tugela River to discuss amalgamation of South Africa's 11 police agencies. Speaking during a visit to Ulundi, Mr Mufamadi said he expected the meetings would go some way towards resolving issues which gave rise to the recent labour protests within the KZP.

Justice Minister Says Truth Commission Likely in September

*MB2107093194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0818
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Text] Johannesburg July 20 SAPA—Justice Minister Dullah Omar says the truth commission could be in operation as early as September, SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Wednesday [20 July]. He said that from submissions received it was clear there were many people who believed the cut-off date for amnesty should be changed.

Speaking on the radio programme Monitor, Mr Omar said some people believed the date should be changed to October 8, 1990, while others believed it should be extended to 27 April 1994. He said the majority of respondents appeared to support a truth commission and that many had indicated support for his proposals.

Police Reservists To Include ANC, IFP Self-Defense Units

*MB2007121294 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1141
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Text] Pretoria July 20 SAPA—Members of ANC Self-Defence Units [SDU] and IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] Self-Protection Units [SPU] are to be incorporated as reservists into the SA Police Services in an attempt to end violence in East Rand townships.

This was decided at a meeting between Security and Safety Minister Sydney Mufamadi and representatives of the SDUs and SPUs in Pretoria on Wednesday [20 July]. Mr Mufamadi said the removal of illegal weapons from Tokoza, Vosloorus, Phola Park and Katlehong was one of the major priorities in resolving East Rand conflict.

A committee comprising representatives from the units, police and the community would examine the details on how the plan should be implemented. The committee will report back next Wednesday (July 27).

Project Reportedly To Fit Mirage Jets With MiG Engines

MB2007092694 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] REUTERS news agency reports that Russia and South Africa are working on a project to fit South African fighter jets with MiG- 29 engines. The Klimov RD-33 engines are being tested on the Mirage F-ICZ fighters. A spokesman for the Russian Mikoyan Design Bureau said production of the aircraft would begin as soon as the tests had been completed and the jets met all the demands. This new military agreement between South Africa and Russia is being ascribed to Russia's strong support of the African National Congress.

Armscor Confirms Project

*MB2107124894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1134
GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Text] Pretoria July 21 SAPA—Armscor [Armaments Corporation of South Africa] and the South African Air Force on Thursday confirmed that they were investigating the feasibility of adapting a Russian engine for use in the Mirage F1.

Armscor said in a statement that this did however not imply that a firm production commitment existed for a fleet modification. "A decision in this regard has not

been made and the Air Force intends keeping other options open as well," Armscor said.

It said that the Air Force viewed its responsibilities as set out in the new constitution in a serious light and that the final decision had to ensure that the limited budget would provide a small but effective fighter fleet. "Once the programme has been developed to a greater level of maturity and the performance parameters are clearer, more detailed technical information will become available," Armscor said.

It was reported earlier that the Air Force was testing Russian MiG engines on Mirage F1 fighter jets.

Zairian President To Join Family at Resort

MB2007120694 Johannesburg THE STAR in English
20 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Norman Chandler]

[Excerpt] The Mobutus of Zaire—no strangers to palatial accommodation—have checked in to the Palace at the Lost City. Family patriarch Mobutu Sese Seko, president of Zaire and reputedly one of the world's richest men, has not yet arrived at the luxury resort, but is expected to join members of his family—as is his wife, Bobila.

Members of the free-spending Zairian First Family booked into the resort two days ago "for several days," sources told THE STAR yesterday. The Zairian leader—who has a fortune estimated at over R20-billion [rand]—was to have arrived at the weekend with his wife but is said to first be "attending to matters of State." [passage omitted]

South African Press Review for 21 Jul

MB2107141994

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Government Role in Resolution of Strikes—"It is a sign of the times that President Mandela is drawn into a wage dispute that should be resolved by the parties concerned," begins the Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 20 July in a page 6 editorial. "A sign of the times because unions are involved in trying to get their rewards for being part of the ANC-SA [South African] Communist Party-Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU] alliance and for having union leaders now in government." Regarding police efforts to restrain the strikers, THE CITIZEN urges President Mandela and COSATU head Shilowa to impress on the strikers the need to demonstrate peacefully. Also of concern is the corporate loss of income, but "in a sense, the ANC can only have itself to blame." The "classic Communist tactics" of mass action that COSATU used to put pressure on the National Party government succeeded, but now COSATU members are applying it to "get their way in labour disputes. Only now the government is an

ANC-dominated one." The editorial warns in conclusion that "the government, in the circumstances, needs to tread carefully and firmly if it is not to allow a situation to develop that bodes ill for industrial peace."

THE STAR

Investigation into KwaZulu Police—Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 21 July in a page 10 editorial notes that Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi has before him a report naming 16 KwaZulu Police (KZP) officers "suspected of complicity in hit squad activities." Mufamadi should follow the recommendations of the report and "suspend seven of the officers—including the Deputy Commissioner of the KZP, Major-General Sipho Mathe—and order a full investigation into accusations against all 16." Furthermore, the investigation "must not be carried out by the KZP; they must not investigate themselves."

BEELD

Mbeki urged To Reconsider Priorities—"The recent absences, with or without reason, of Deputy President Thabo Mbeki at three important appointments creates a poor impression, to say the least," points out the Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 13 July in an editorial on page 8. "Mr. Mbeki has to realize that he is no longer the chairman of a liberation movement. He chose to accept the second highest government position of deputy president with all the responsibilities that entails. What leaves a bad taste in the mouth is the fact that up to now no one has given any credible reason for his mysterious 'disappearance' of almost 3 weeks from the country. Rumor has it that he was on an urgent mission to old friends abroad to try to ease the ANC's nagging debt problems. When he was due to hand over emergency supplies for Rwandan refugees to a UN Children's Fund representative, he chose instead to attend a meeting of the ANC's national working committee. Perhaps Mr. Mbeki should reconsider his priorities. Taxpayers can justly insist that their interests be placed first. And Mr Mbeki would also do well to keep them fully informed about his movements abroad and, in particular, about who is paying for his excursions."

Decision on Ministerial Assistants 'Dangerous'—"Good watchdogs will be needed to keep an eye on the government, otherwise we will witness a generosity with the taxpayer's money which will make previous governments look like paragons of thrift," warns an editorial on page 12 of the Johannesburg BEELD on 14 July. "The latest example is the cabinet decision which allows ministers and deputies to appoint people of their own choice from outside the public service on a contract basis." A private secretary will then earn "considerably more than members of Parliament and ordinary civil servants." "Are there no qualified people within the civil service," asks BEELD, adding that "we see the plan as unwise, dangerous, and open to abuse, as well as being far too expensive. If the new government is sending out

such signals, it will receive no sympathy and sacrifice for its Reconstruction and Development Program."

New Police Act Welcomed—"Few people would find fault with the content of the draft Police Act Bill, details of which were released last week, and which is going to change policing in South Africa drastically," says an editorial on page 8 of the Johannesburg **BEELD** in Afrikaans on 18 July. "The old South African Police

enjoyed no credibility among that part of the population which for decades saw the police as the force which implemented a hated policy. True, there have been efforts in the past few years to change that image, but these were not successful. The proposed new act will give attention to these problems and hopefully will be more successful in restoring to the public its confidence in the South African Police Service as protector of all and as an objective instrument of law and order.

Mozambique

South African President Nelson Mandela Visits

Arrives in Maputo

*MB2007152194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1455
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Text] Maputo July 20 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela, on his first official state visit, received a hero's welcome when he arrived in Mozambique on Wednesday [20 July]. The president's Falcon jet touched down at Maputo Airport shortly after 3PM.

He was met by Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and hundreds of Mozambicans who sang, danced and beat drums to celebrate his arrival. The two presidents inspected a guard of honour and listened to a military band playing their respective national anthems.

It took Mr Mandela the better part of half-an-hour to work his way through the dignitaries and impromptu praise-singing performances conducted in his honour. "I'm very excited to be here," Mr Mandela told Mr Chissano.

The two leaders were taken from the airport in a cavalcade headed by about 12 motorcycles. The entourage brought central Maputo to a standstill as thousands of people lined the streets waving South African flags.

President Mandela was due to hold talks with Mr Chissano at the presidential palace and to sign a co-operation agreement intended to formalise South Africa's relationship with Mozambique.

Mr Mandela is being accompanied by Arts, Culture, Science and Technology Minister Dr Ben Ngubane, Foreign Affairs Director General Rusty Evans and Presidential Adviser Professor Jakes Gerwel.

He was due to attend a banquet on Wednesday evening.

Mandela on Unity Government

*MB2007184194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1756
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Report by Patrick Bulger]

[Text] Maputo July 20 SAPA—South Africa's political parties undertook several conciliatory initiatives, among them agreeing to a government of national unity to secure a peaceful election and transition to democracy, President Nelson Mandela told Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano on Wednesday. Mr Mandela was speaking to Mr Chissano before a formal round of talks on cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Mandela had arrived only hours earlier in the impoverished former Portuguese colony on his first state visit abroad. He emphasised he was not "lecturing" Mozambique which faces its first multi-party elections after years of civil war between Mr Chissano's Frelimo

[Mozambique Liberation Front] government and the Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebel movement.

Mr Chissano has come under pressure from Western governments to agree to a form of power-sharing before the elections. Mr Mandela said the South African initiatives included an end to hostilities, agreeing to a Transitional Executive Council to take partial control of the government before the elections and the installation of a government of national unity.

"This does not necessarily mean this should be a blueprint for any other country which is holding elections. We do not at all think that we should now lecture to any country or that the path we have taken should be followed by other countries. I am merely stating the initiatives that we took.

"One of these initiatives was the government of national unity, bringing together various political trends in order to show that this transition is as smooth and harmonious as possible. We have succeeded where many thought we would never have peaceful elections in our country."

Mr Mandela said South Africa still faced far-reaching changes to its structure of government. He said there was an imbalance of one ethnic group (whites) in the structure of government.

"That is something that is totally undesirable. We do not at all blame our comrades who are filling these positions. They are men of honour and integrity and we are working with them very smoothly. If you looked at the present line-up you would be justified in thinking that we have brought about no changes in our country."

Mr Mandela said South Africa had to formulate its policies towards its neighbours carefully. "Bearing in mind the background of military destabilisation and economic sabotage of the region by our country, we are very cautious when we are asked by bodies which have an interest in ending conflict in our region, to participate in joint ventures."

He said South Africa was especially wary of military involvement no matter how justified it might seem. "The public will say we are continuing a policy which has been condemned by the rest of the democratic world."

Mr Chissano, who has rejected a government of national unity before elections, said in reply that Mozambique was embarking on the same path of national reconciliation. "It will take different steps but in the end it is the same. Destabilisation did not allow us to consolidate in many fields this national unity. We will find ways of having everyone participate in nation-building."

The two presidents signed a co-operation agreement to allow for the establishment of joint commissions in various fields, among them agriculture, security, transport and medicine.

On Developing Southern African Area

*MB2007192494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1834
GMT 20 Jul 94*

[Text] Maputo July 20 SAPA—South Africa wanted to help build a new prosperous southern African region to "compete with dignity in the rest of the world", President Nelson Mandela told a state banquet held in his honour in Maputo on Wednesday.

Mr Mandela, who arrived in Mozambique hours earlier on his first state visit abroad, said southern Africa had felt the "shockwaves of international events which have changed the world in which we live". "We are all striving for success and stability in our region. The aim is to create a new, prosperous southern African community that will be able to compete with dignity in the rest of the world."

Mr Mandela said Defence Minister Joe Modise had already visited Mozambique to review and expand cooperation in security matters. "The aim is to stop cross-border criminal activities that include the trafficking of weapons, drugs and vehicles and financial crimes that result in the treasuries of both our countries being defrauded of legitimate excise revenues."

A joint working group on security would meet for the first time in Nelspruit next Monday.

The next most important area of cooperation was in the economic field. He said South Africa would do its best to promote investments in Mozambique. "The success of the peace process currently under way here in your country depends in part on the redevelopment of your economy."

Mr Mandela said South Africa would work as an equal partner with the other southern African states. "Our southern African region has great potential. It could be a prosperous and strong region for the benefit of all its peoples, but this will only be achieved if there is full cooperation by all the countries in the region."

Mr Mandela said South Africa looked forward to helping Mozambique exploit sources of energy such as the Cahora Bassa hydro-electric project and the Panda gas fields.

He said South Africa's progress in reconstruction and development would be extended to its neighbours. Cultural ties would also be strengthened. "Your country is undergoing a process of change. We are ready to help wherever we can should you request such help."

Mr Mandela said South Africa was assisting the peace process in Angola. It also intended becoming more involved with the Southern African Development Conference.

He proposed a toast to "the good relations that exist between South Africa and Mozambique" and to "President Chissano and the people of Mozambique".

Chissano, Mandela Speak at Banquet

MB2107063694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0400 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano says the Mozambican Government is committed to conducting the peace process in a serious, reasonable, and flexible manner as required for the guarantee of peace and stability. Chissano was speaking at a state banquet given in Maputo yesterday to Nelson Mandela, his South African counterpart, who is currently on an official visit to Mozambique.

Mandela was thankful for the support the Mozambique Liberation Front had given to the ANC's struggle against apartheid, stressing the existing relations between the Mozambican and South African peoples. Mandela said his country is willing to give all the necessary assistance to the ongoing changes in Mozambique.

Yesterday Mozambique and South Africa signed an accord providing for the establishment of a joint cooperation commission. The accord was signed at the end of official talks between Presidents Joaquim Chissano and Nelson Mandela.

Report on Mandela's Agenda

*MB2107094494 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese
21 Jul 94 p 1*

[Report by Carlos Cardoso, Rui Carvalho, and Arnaldo Abilio]

[Excerpts] Joaquim Chissano risks losing crucial points inside and outside the country if Nelson Mandela fails to meet Dhlakama and other opposition leaders.

At the time of going to press it was not known whether Mandela, who arrived in Maputo yesterday, would be able to materialize his goal of meeting Dhlakama.

The South African president has brought to Maputo a straightforward agenda: "to contribute toward national reconciliation," as South African sources say. That is, to meet with everyone.

MEDIAFAX learned from reliable sources yesterday that a number of senior Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] officials have been pressuring Chissano to prevent Mandela from meeting Dhlakama. The meeting is scheduled for 21 July.

We have also learned that there has been some U.S. pressure on Mandela to pressure Chissano into accepting a government of national unity before the elections are held. Our sources assured us that Mandela feels that such pressure is an unnecessary interference in a matter that concerns Mozambicans.

The South African delegation arrived in Maputo willing to ask: What is going on between Mozambique Armed Forces [FAM] and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] troops?

It looked as if the Mozambicans' reply was that the troops want their demobilization pay and wish to go home. The most significant example came from FAM's General Staff in Maputo.

Yesterday afternoon hundreds of soldiers of a battalion in that unit rebelled, even breaking the windows of Major Manjate's automobile. Maj. Manjate is one of the officials responsible for finances. The troops threatened to block 24 de Julho and Eduardo Mondlane avenues today and occupy the General Staff if they were not paid their three months' salary arrears.

The troops told our reporter that the money reached the General Staff, but was allegedly "embezzled" by commander Lazaro who is in charge of the General Staff's guard.

Lazaro denies the charges. He told MEDIAFAX that no money had been embezzled and even denied that there was any problem with the troops at the General Staff—we were there, spoke to the men, and saw the problem.

The soldiers also complained about lack of food and said they want to be demobilized.

Waiting for Mandela at the Maputo International Airport was Aldo Ajello. We asked him what he would tell President Mandela about the troops' mutinies when he meets him. Ajello said: "I will tell him the truth." [passage omitted]

The South African Government has another point in its vast agenda on Mozambique: Cahora Bassa.

We do not know whether this time Mandela is going to discuss it with Chissano, though we have learned that Pretoria is intrigued with what some circles see as a not so clear Portuguese stand. MEDIAFAX learned from reliable sources that the South African Government and Eskom [Electricity Supply Commission] are already talking of buying out the Portuguese share in HCB [Cahora Bassa Hydroelectric Scheme]. [passage omitted]

ANC-Renamo Communication Link Established

MB2007091794 Maputo MEDIAFAX in Portuguese
20 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by correspondent Dan Moyane in Johannesburg: "ANC-Renamo: A New Axis in Regional Diplomacy"]

[Text] In its markedly African diplomacy, the South African Government has established a direct line of communication between the ANC and Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance].

Reliable ANC sources told MEDIAFAX yesterday that over the past months, Vice President Thabo Mbeki met on "various occasions" with Renamo officials, including Dhlakama, with the knowledge of the Mozambique Liberation Front Party. One of the meetings was held at the ANC's Johannesburg headquarters in Shell House.

The source says the ANC is happy with the fact that the Mozambican process is moving slower and more clearly than Angola's, thus avoiding the same mistakes made in that country.

The source added, however, that there is some room for concern within the ANC leadership, regarding Dhlakama's recent accusations of electoral fraud.

According to Brigadier Jeronimo Malagueta, interim head of Renamo's political affairs department, relations between the two countries "ought to be good, based on friendship and mutual assistance." He said with the abolition of apartheid, relations ought to be "closer," and Renamo has the same view about other neighboring countries.

Peace Process Timetable Delayed

MB1907172094 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] According to the new peace process timetable, the third training cycle for infantry soldiers was scheduled to be concluded by July. But now, with four months' delay, only the first infantry cycle has been concluded. By 10 July, 15,000 infantry soldiers were scheduled to be trained in three training cycles, but only one training cycle has been concluded and only about 5,000 soldiers have been trained.

By May 1994, 50 percent of the Mozambique Defense Armed Forces [FADM], about 15,000 soldiers, were scheduled to be operating. The new army will consist of 30,000 soldiers. In order to overcome such delays, the parties involved in the process have been requested to speed up sending soldiers to the training centers and there has been a request for more instructors through reinforcements which would come from Zimbabwe, as well as Italian involvement in the process of forming the FADM. Within the framework of the new armed forces, 100 army officers including generals, have attended a leadership training course.

At present a similar course is under way, this time only for senior officers. Officers who will be in charge of the new army's units are attending the courses. A unit of special forces has been trained in Nacala. Navy officers have also been trained. The military administration personnel have not yet concluded their training, although the timetable stipulates April 1994 as the deadline. The trained units do not yet possess arms.

The demobilization of troops was scheduled to be concluded by May. Two months after the deadline, the troops are still being demobilized. The government still

has to demobilize 25,230 soldiers and the Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] 22,637 troops.

Regarding the confinement of soldiers, the government and Renamo have concluded the process seven months later, since the timetable indicated December 1993 as the deadline. Another operation which has been delayed is the scrapping of armed groups. Cease-Fire Commission Chairman Colonel Segala had said all the irregular armies would be disarmed by 15 July. This did not happen due to difficulties which arose, particularly in central Mozambique, aggravated by latest developments in Dombe, Manica Province.

Ex-Government Troops Mutiny in Various Areas

Mutiny in Namialo

MB2007092494 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Government soldiers that mutinied in Namialo, Nampula Province, on 18 July, released all prisoners from the jail of the local police station and destroyed all criminal records. The mutinied soldiers plundered and destroyed all of the station's furniture, forcing police officials to leave the town in view of the violence. A policeman and a soldier were killed. Another policeman was seriously wounded and is under intensive care at the Nampula Central Hospital.

Mutiny in Angoche

MB2007144794 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] The police commander for Angoche, Nampula Province, has been admitted to hospital after being beaten up by government soldiers who mutinied this morning to demand a speedy demobilization. Those soldiers left their assembly area and went into Angoche, where they freed a colleague who had been detained by police. The latest reports indicate that the mutineers have returned to their assembly area. The road between Angoche and Nampula remains blocked, however, because government soldiers have put up barricades. One person was knocked down and killed by a vehicle.

Further on Angoche Mutiny

MB2107124594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The city of Angoche in Nampula Province has been without electricity since this morning, following an order issued by mutinying government soldiers to workers of the city's power station to shut down the system. The Angoche-Nampula road is still blocked. Armed with sticks and four AKM's, the mutinied soldiers killed a civilian. Angoche businessmen closed their shops for fear of being ransacked. Nampula Province Governor Alfredo Gamito confirmed that government soldiers confined to the Angoche assembly point have assaulted the district commander of the Republic of

Mozambique Police and seized four weapons. The soldiers are demanding their immediate demobilization.

Mutiny in Gaza; Inhambane 'Normal'

MB2007191794 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpts] More than 100 former government soldiers, who were demobilized last year outside the terms of the General Peace Accord, went on a mutiny in the capital of Gaza Province's Massingir District on 15 and 16 July. They are demanding seven months of salaries in arrears and demobilization subsidies. [passage omitted]

The situation has returned to normal in Inhambane Province's Massinga District. This follows a mutiny by government soldiers on 14 and 15 July. They demanded salary increases as decreed in June by the government for state workers. Those soldiers withdrew their demands after a Finance Ministry team explained to them who those increases were intended for.

Radio Mozambique's Inhambane correspondent reports that during the mutiny those 600 or so soldiers put up barricades on National Route One, looted the house of the administrator for Massinga and a hotel, and beat up civilians. They also held hostage the military commander for Inhambane Province.

Renamo Leader Dhlakama on Elections, Foreign Ties

MB2107132994 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television Network in English 1730 GMT 20 Jul 94

[From the "Newline" program—italicized passages recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] President Nelson Mandela is on his first state visit to the war-ravaged Mozambique. Earlier Newline spoke to the president of that country, Joaquim Chissano, about the situation there as preparations are afoot for the first democratic elections later this year. Tonight Newline brings you the other side of the story which includes the views of Renamo's [Mozambique National Resistance] Afonso Dhlakama.

After 16 years of civil war, Mozambique stumbled further down the road towards democracy early this month when the leader of the rebel Renamo movement, Afonso Dhlakama, took his politics of liberation to the people on an electioneering road show. Afonso Dhlakama has been the leader of Renamo, Mozambican National Resistance, since 1979. For most of that time he has seldom left his bush headquarters at Gorongosa in northern Mozambique. However, last week Dhlakama traveled to rural areas from Chibabava to Buzi and addressed thousands of his followers in Beira.

[Dhlakama] I think that I can negotiate with my brother President Chissano, and also we will help with the [word indistinct] United Nation.

[Announcer] Dhlakama has been described as an elusive guerrilla commander who has directed war against the Mozambican Government. But on his campaign trial he portrayed himself as a liberator of the people and fighter for democracy.

[Dhlakama] *Mozambicans, they know that we are for peace, for democracy, for freedom, because we fought for that.*

[Announcer] This electioneering is aimed at the forthcoming October elections of this year. These elections are aimed at sealing the transition to democracy following the 1992 peace accords that ended the civil war. These accords confined both government and rebel arms formation to various camps. Dhlakama, however, feels that this has been deliberately violated by government troops.

[Dhlakama] *Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] soldier, everyday news that one commander, he rob there, he destroy there, he killing here, many police, is to say that okay, if Frelimo soldier they do that now, is to say that during the war they were killing the people, they were destroying all, they using Renamo name.*

[Announcer] Renamo is not also happy about the fact that Frelimo is still the government of the day, and this makes them even more disadvantaged. Renamo claims that they don't have access to resources such as government vehicles, infrastructure, housing, communication networks and fundings, but he still insists that Renamo will come out victorious after the forthcoming elections.

[Dhlakama] *I'm already now win, because what I was [word indistinct] Frelimo, democracy, election, now we have now is to say Dhlakama already win.*

[Announcer] How does Afonso Dhlakama view the mediation role of the foreign countries in Mozambique?

[Dhlakama] *Sometimes Mozambique Government trying to [word indistinct] United Nations to say that well [word indistinct] trying to interfere in internal issue, but we think that the United Nations since we requested them to come to Mozambique to supervise both sides up to now, we think that their role is well for both sides.*

[Announcer] If Renamo wins the elections, what relations with the foreign countries will there be?

[Dhlakama] *I think that we will use well finance from international to invest in our country. [sentence as heard]*

[Announcer] Figures provided by the National Electoral Commission represents only 25 percent of the estimated total electorate of 8.5 million had only registered and the closing date was the 15th of August. Dhlakama, through his campaign, emphasized the will and the determination to go to the polls. The big question is, if Renamo loses the elections, will they go back to the bush?

[Begin Dhlakama recording] We will not return to bush, because I did not fight for power. I fought for freedom, for democracy.

Zambia

Cooperation Agreement Signed With PRC

MB2007145094 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 0500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Zambia and China have signed a two-year agreement covering various areas of bilateral relations. The agreement was signed yesterday by the vice cultural minister [name indistinct] and Deputy Minister of Community Development and Social Services (Peter Mandaka) in the presence of government officials from both countries. The program [words indistinct] exchange of cultural ideas between the two countries and for [words indistinct] assistance [words indistinct] media. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. (Mandaka) said the agreement was intended to serve as an instrument for enhancing bilateral cooperation and promoting mutual understanding between the two countries.

Liberia**Taylor Claims ECOMOG Attacks NPFL Troops**

AB2007221594 Gbarnga Radio ELRL in English 1200 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Details are emerging of renewed attacks on the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] by the Nigerian-led military force of ECOMOG [Economic community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] in the Firestone area. According to the commander in chief of the NPFL, Mr. Charles Gankay Taylor, the fighting started yesterday morning when Nigerian forces attacked NPFL positions in the Firestone plantation. Mr. Taylor told the BBC in an interview yesterday that NPFL reinforcements had to rush to the area to contain the unprovoked ECOMOG attack. The fighting is continuing with the use of heavy weaponry by ECOMOG, causing large human casualties mainly among the civilian population of the area.

Former President Taylor is quoted as saying the latest wave of aggression by Nigeria is intended to disrupt the holding of elections, something which he said he is confident of winning. The former president said the crisis is being fueled and prolonged by the Nigerians for economic gains, but stressed that the people of Liberia needed peace, and that the international community must move quickly to stop the wanton aggression of Nigeria against the people of Liberia.

ECOMOG Commander Denies Attack

AB2007212394 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 20 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Excerpt] Once again Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, NPFL, is at loggerheads with the African peacekeeping force ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring group]. He frequently accuses ECOMOG of backing his enemies in rival factions—ULIMO [United Liberation Movement of Liberia], the LPC [Liberian Peace Council], and the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia]. Yesterday, he claimed that AFL forces, with ECOMOG support, were attacking his forces around the Firestone rubber plantation. On the line to Monrovia, Robin White asked ECOMOG commander, Brigadier General Femi Williams, what he made about the allegation:

[Begin recording] [Williams] Well, that's a blatant lie. The policy of ECOMOG, we are here for the peace. [sentence as heard] We are not in a peace-enforcement role. We are in peacekeeping and we are not prepared, and we are not prepared in many ways to fight Taylor.

[White] So you think there is no truth in it whatsoever?

[Williams] No truth whatsoever in it.

[White] Do you have any information about the Armed Forces of Liberia attacking Firestone?

[Williams] That's not true. I don't think that is true.

[White] So are you saying there was no fighting going on at all around Firestone yesterday?

[Williams] Not to my knowledge. Not to my knowledge.

[White] Now, where is the fighting going on at the moment?

[Williams] As far as I am concerned, from what I heard, because we haven't got that facility to know what is going on in the southeast, I understand that there is fighting still going on between the LPC and the NPFL around the southeast.

[White] So you think there is fighting going on there?

[Williams] So I learned through the press but there is no way I can confirm it.

[White] There have also been accusations that you are helping the LPC as well.

[Williams] Who is helping the LPC?

[White] You are.

[Williams] I don't.... [pauses] That is not true. It is not possible.

[White] So all these stories about the Nigerian contingent of ECOMOG helping Charles Taylor's enemies, you are saying that's not true?

[Williams] That's not true, but you can easily understand what is happening. It was Nigerians specifically who did not allow him to bring up problems to Monrovia in October 1992. Since then he has this grudge against Nigeria, and as far as ECOMOG is concerned we are still one, and it is an indivisible force.

[White] What in general do you feel about Charles Taylor?

[Williams] Well, like I said, he has some motive to become the president. He should go through the ballot box rather than using other means, by looking for ways and other means to get there at all costs.

[White] That is what he said he wants too, once. [sentence as heard] He said he wants peace, and that you are now stopping the peace.

[Williams] What is happening on the ground is not the same. We on the ground know exactly what is going on.

[White] Well, I gather that you yourself are leaving for home quite soon.

[Williams] Yes.

[White] You are pleased to be going home?

[Williams] Well, I am pleased to go home. I have tried my best in the peace process in Liberia. I took over from somebody, and somebody will take over from me, and then we continue with the process.

[White] Do you think Liberians like ECOMOG anymore?

[Williams] Of course, they are in love with ECOMOG. They are in love with ECOMOG. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Taylor Ally Accuses NPFL Leader of Atrocities

AB2007200994 Paris AFP in English 1403 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Monrovia, July 20 (AFP)—A close ally of National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) leader Charles Taylor has accused him of serious "atrocities" and described him as an "enemy" of his countrymen.

Founder NPFL member and financial backer Tom Woewiyu, Labour Minister in Liberia's transitional government, late Tuesday [18 July] accused Taylor of numerous "atrocities, (...) probably more than we were aware of during the 10-year regime of dictator Samuel Doe", killed in 1990 by rebels in the early stages of the civil war.

If Taylor were to become Liberian president he would "eliminate most Liberians he saw as obstacles to his desire for power", he charged.

Woewiyu said the NPFL leader had "abused the goals and objectives of the organisation because of his greed for power."

The minister appealed to NPFL troops to avoid clashes with other factions, admitting there was a "problem" with the movement he himself helped found.

"That problem is not with the fighters, but with Taylor," Woewiyu said.

He also urged the Nigerian contingent in the African peacekeeping force (ECOMOG) [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring group] to remain in Liberia.

Taylor has repeatedly demanded the removal of the Nigerian contingent, the largest in the 19,000-strong force.

NPFL is the main armed faction in the West African country. The movement is one of the signatories to the July 1993 inter-Liberian peace accord signed at Cotonou in neighbouring Benin, which called for the creation of transitional institutions and disarmament of armed factions before free elections.

Woewiyu is one of six NPFL nominees in the transitional government, set up on March 7.

ECOMOG Wednesday denied claims by Taylor that Nigerian members of the force attacked his troops in the Firestone rubber plantation, 50 kilometres (30 miles) east of Monrovia.

ECOMOG general staff officer Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Koroma described the accusation as "a mere fabrication, unfounded and totally false."

Taylor told the BBC Tuesday that fighting between his National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) forces and both ECOMOG and the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) was going on in the area of the plantation.

The NPFL leader claimed Nigerian ECOMOG soldiers had "provoked" his troops.

No such fighting had taken place between ECOMOG forces and the NPFL, Koroma said Wednesday.

However, progress was being made to gain the release of an ECOMOG soldier taken hostage last week when NPFL fighters ambushed a truck on a highway between Monrovia and the town of Kataka, 55 kilometres (34 miles) north-east of the capital.

"We are hopeful he will be released soon," Koroma said, adding that negotiations between the U.N. observer mission in Liberia (UNOMIL) and the NPFL leadership were in progress.

ULIMO's Johnson, ECOMOG Official View Disarmament

AB1907194094 London BBC World Service in English
0600 GMT 19 Jul 94

[From the "Network Africa" program; italicized passages recorded]

[Text] Next, Liberia, where the peace process continues at a snail's pace. A leading militia leader has now accused the West African force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], of missing an opportunity to help speed things up. General Roosevelt Johnson, who heads one faction of the ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] group, says he has offered to let ECOMOG troops move into the territory he controls, which is allegedly up to a quarter of Liberia, but this, he says, has not been met with a positive response as he explained to Pete Lewstein on the line from Monrovia:

[Begin recording] [Johnson] Our movement is a pressure group, and as we said, we promised that whatsoever area we take from Mr. Taylor will subsequently be turned over to ECOMOG so that ECOMOG can turn it over to the present government that may be on the ground for the Liberian people to have peace.

[Lewstein] So, have ECOMOG responded to your invitation?

[Johnson] Yes, ECOMOG said that she received the invitation, and yesterday we heard on the air that the field commander said that the only way they will go in except we agree to disarm. [sentence as heard] But, I say that this not a question that we can address ourselves to, because once we have invited them in real good faith that they should come and that LNTG [Liberia National Transitional Government] should extend her domain there, so that our people who are dying in camps can return to their homes and villages, we are prepared for encampment and disarmament.

[Lewistein] What guarantees can you give to ECOMOG that your forces won't attack them? Because, they've gone into areas before and their forces have come under attack.

[Johnson] Definitely, Lewistein, our forces will never and have never attacked ECOMOG. We believe that ECOMOG is a neutral force, we are committed to the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace plan, and ECOMOG is a neutral body, and therefore I have nothing against them, and therefore we are fully prepared to cooperate with them because we are tired of our people dying.

[Lewistein] If you are so committed to cooperating with ECOMOG, why don't you turn your men over or ask your men to go to a disarmament camp, and they can give up their weapons, and then ECOMOG can move in, and all will be well in that area?

[Johnson] Lewistein, according to the Cotonou Accord... [pauses] the Cotonou agreement speaks of deployment before disarmament and encampment. It is indeed very hard to understand that we can carry on disarmament while ECOMOG will be in Monrovia in offices and things. Where do the men go? So, the area has to be secure in order to build confidence within the citizenry, and then they start to return home. You understand? Once that deployment is carried out, according to the Cotonou agreement, we are prepared to disarm and encamp. [end recording]

So, why is ECOMOG insisting that ULIMO fighters disarm before it deploys its men? Pete Lewistein called up ECOMOG's chief of staff, Brigadier General Femi Williams:

[Begin recording] [Williams] At the moment, we are deployed in most of the areas... [pauses] some of the areas under his control. Our boys are in Tubmanburg—the capital of his headquarters—our boys are also in Kakata, but the main point there is, he wanted us to take over the other areas which ECOMOG Headquarters is still insisting that, if he wants us to take over, then he must be ready to disarm.

[Lewistein] He says that under the Cotonou agreement, first of all, ECOMOG can deploy, and then he could disarm.

[Williams] Well, like I said, we are deployed in two major areas under his control, and we are already in location, and up till now they have not disarmed. What is the point of going to a new area without them getting ready to disarm to ECOMOG? We do not want to look as if we are being used to hold ground for them to (?ward off) other attacks.

[Lewistein] So, what signs are you waiting for from Gen. Johnson's men?

[Williams] He should be prepared to disarm and then stop all the hostilities.

[Lewistein] Are there all the facilities needed at disarmament camps, are they available in these areas where ECOMOG has moved into?

[Williams] Right from 7 March we deployed the disarmament team, and they are still there. At the moment, as I am still talking to you, the disarmament camp in (Toudi)—Camp (Toudi)—which is meant to disarm those in Kakata and the surroundings, they are still there up to today as I am talking to you.

[Lewistein] Speaking generally, how would you describe the disarmament process in Liberia at the moment?

[Williams] Like I said, they just come in trickles. You know, individuals come in to drop their arms to get whatever UNOMIL [UN Observer Mission in Liberia] has for them. But, the way it started initially, whereby we were disarming about 10⁰ to 120 in a day or two, that has stopped. In most of the disarmament centers, we have only maybe about two or three disarming a day or every other day.

[Lewistein] Are you hopeful that things might improve in the future?

[Williams] Well, it is everybody's guess. All what everybody is praying for, that there will be hope, and then the warring factions will see reason, and disarm to ECOMOG as planned. [end recording]

Niger

CDS Chairman Senoussi Resigns, Comments

AB2007121994 Paris AFP in French 1604 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Text] Niamey, 19 Jul (AFP)—The social crisis which has shaken Niger for the past two months today took a political turn with the announcement of the resignation of Jackou Senoussi from the chairmanship of the Democratic and Social Convention [CDS], President Mahamane Ousmane's party and the main majority coalition group. Senoussi, who is also deputy speaker of the National Assembly, was known to be a close ally of the head of state and had been serving as interim chairman of the CDS since the victory of Mr. Ousmane in the March 1993 presidential election.

In a statement in the pro-opposition weekly LE DEMOCRATE, which he confirmed to AFP, Senoussi justified his decision by "reasons of personal convenience." However, within the party, it is no secret that he had been unhappy about President Ousmane's refusal to allow the deputies to discuss the issue of the government workers' strike, which has paralyzed government activities since 1 June. According to several observers, such a discussion could have led to the passing of a vote of no confidence in Prime Minister Mahamadou Issoufou's government.

Government workers are on an indefinite strike and are demanding an increase in their base salaries in order to alleviate the effects of inflation, which the labor unions have put at 50 to 100 percent, following the devaluation of the CFA franc last January.

Nigeria

Official: Government To 'Consider' Releasing Abiola

AB2007185094 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Lagos, July 20 (AFP)—Nigeria's military junta said Wednesday [20 July] it would consider releasing jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola.

The military ruler, General Sani Abacha, met with leaders of the powerful Nigerian Labour Congress in the capital Abuja.

Afterward, Information Minister Jerry Gana said the labor federation had presented a "very good argument" in favor of Abiola's release and that "the government is going to look into the matter."

Gana added: "if the request of labour is what is going to move Nigeria forward peacefully, I am sure the government will consider it."

His remarks came as the country was gripped by a crippling two-week-old oil industry strike called to press the military to release Abiola and install him as president.

The leaders of the labour congress, one of the moderate pro-democracy groups confronting Abacha, agreed at a meeting in the northern town of Kaduna Tuesday to enter talks with the country's military leader.

They are thought to be the first such talks between Abacha and opposition forces since Abiola was arrested on June 23 and charged with treason for declaring Abacha's regime illegal and declaring himself president.

Abiola is generally considered to have won a presidential election held last June to usher in civilian rule. The voting was annulled by the military on grounds of fraud.

The ruler at the time, General Ibrahim Babangida, resigned in August of last year after installing an

unelected civilian administration. That government was ousted in November by Abacha.

NLC Executive Endorses Agreement With Government

AB2007165294 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] The National Executive Council of the Nigerian Labor Congress has endorsed the agreement reached at a recent meeting in Lagos between its representatives and the government on the political situation in the country. It has therefore resolved to suspend the proposed industrial action by its members, in the light of imminent release of the political detainees.

In a communique at the end of its meeting in Kaduna, the council said, having received the report on the outcome of the meeting, it endorsed in particular the spirit and understanding of the communique. In keeping with the spirit of the meeting, the council has set up a high-powered delegation, and directed it to immediately leave for Abuja for the actualization of the contents of the communique. It acknowledged that the release of the political detainees, including Chief Moshood Abiola, was not an end to the problems as such. The Council therefore resolved that the congress should further take appropriate steps in finding solutions that would guarantee peace, justice, and stability in the country. It said that the position of the congress on the 12 June phenomenon had not changed, and remained committed to the cause of democracy and justice on the issue.

The Council stated that it was necessary to evolve a national solution and restore peace, trust, and confidence in all segments of the country. On the economic plight of workers, the NLC National Executive Council said this had not been sufficiently and promptly addressed by the trade unions in recent times, and could alienate them from the rank and file. It noted that at the level of industrial relations, most unions had bargained successfully in improving the lot of workers in terms of conditions of service, wages, and fringe benefits. The council, however, said that the desired changes had not been achieved because of inflation.

Minister on Agreement With Labor Officials

AB2007215594 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] The minister of information and culture, Professor Jerry Gana, has appealed to Nigerians in the southwestern part of the country to stop the violence there. He said violence is not the best solution to the current political problems. Prof. Gana made the appeal while briefing State House correspondents on the outcome of a meeting between the government and labor on the review of this year's budget. State House correspondent Mohamed Labo reports:

[Begin recording] [Labo] Prof. Gana said beating and killing people or burning housing are not the answers to the country's political problems. He said only dialogue can solve the problems.

[Gana] [Words indistinct] Nigeria to move forward and believe me, the government is interested in finding lasting solutions to these issues. [Words indistinct] to peace, let us take the path of peace, the path of dialogue, [words indistinct] justice.

[Labo] On the release of Bashorun Moshood Abiola, Prof. Gana said:

[Gana] [Words indistinct] and many other Nigerians are [words indistinct] because of peace and stability [words indistinct].

[Labo] Prof. Gana also said that NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers] general secretary, Mr. Frank Kokori, escaped invitation by any arm of the security forces. He said that Kokori may have gone underground, because it doesn't want to be reached for the conclusion of the NUPENG industrial action.

On the issue of fuel supply in the country, Prof. Gana said there is enough fuel, but distribution is the problem, which he described as self-imposed suffering by NUPENG. He said the government had had a very fruitful meeting with labor on the issue of budget review, adding that labor's recommendations would be discussed on Friday [22 July] during the same meeting on the Economic Intelligence Committee, after which areas of review in the budget will be announced to the nation.

On labor's stand over the political situation, he said the government is [words indistinct].

[Gana] [passage indistinct]

[Labo] Another round of meeting between the government and labor to find the ways of solving the political crisis will be held soon. [end recording]

Administrator Issues Curfew in Kano State

AB2007222794 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] In Kano State, a restriction has been placed on the movement of people between one and six o'clock in the morning. The state administrator, Col. Abdulai Wase [name as heard], announced the restriction yesterday at a meeting with a cross section of religious leaders from all the local government areas. He explained that the move was to ensure security. The administrator urged the religious leaders not to relent in prayers, stressing that these were necessary to salvage the country from the present political and economic crisis.

Former Head of State Obasanjo on Mediation, Abiola

AB2107123394 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 21 Jul 94

[From the "Network Africa" program; hosted by Toyin Fani Kayode]

[Text] The Nigerian Labor Congress has met for talks with the military government of General Sani Abacha. However, the crisis in Nigeria continues, with disturbances in the south and an ongoing oil strike that has paralyzed parts of the country and severely disrupted the economy. Chief M.K.O. Abiola, the man widely believed to have won last year's democratic election, is still charged with treason and is still in custody. Amid all this confusion, there may be a glimmer of hope. Former Head of State General Olusegun Obasanjo has been meeting separately with Head of State Sani Abacha and detained opposition leader Chief M.K.O. Abiola in an effort to mediate between the two men. Emily Casreal called him up in Otta, Ogun state, and asked him what came out of the meeting.

[Begin recording] [Obasanjo] Two things came out: One, it came out that Gen. Sani Abacha is not averse to releasing Chief M.K.O. Abiola. It also came out.... [pauses] Gen. Abacha has given some—well, I won't say time—some of the things he would want to see, and these we have placed with Chief M.K.O. Abiola and it is up to Chief M.K.O. Abiola to now discuss these and then say: Well, look! This is what is acceptable or what is not acceptable.

[Casreal] Can you tell me what conditions Sani Abacha laid down before he would release M.K.O. Abiola?

[Obasanjo] I would not want to discuss that until Chief Abiola gives us his reaction.

[Casreal] But what sort of conditions were these?

[Obasanjo] Well, what I would say, what assurance.... [Obasanjo pauses] Some form of assurance in terms of maintenance of peace, I think.

[Casreal] Who is the executive committee which Chief Abiola referred to when he was talking to you?

[Obasanjo] Well, he did not say exactly who they are, but he mentioned this executive committee about two or three times.

[Casreal] Have you any indication....

[Obasanjo, interruption] [words indistinct] to think that they will be essentially those in the NADECO [National Democratic Coalition].

[Casreal] Do you have the feeling that Head of State Sani Abacha feels himself to be under a lot of pressure now?

[Obasanjo] Well, I won't put it that way. I would say that he knows that there are things in the country that are not

going as they should be going and, therefore, there is need on the part of everybody, including the government and particularly the government, to do things to make things go the way they should be going.

[Casreal] Now, at some point, you have called for Chief M.K.O. Abiola to become president of Nigeria. Did you raise this with Head of State Sani Abacha?

[Obasanjo] Well, I thought there are a number of issues and, in this case, we believe that the issue of detention and release of Chief M.K.O. Abiola is the primary issue at this point in time, and other issues should follow after his release. [end recording]

That was former Nigerian head of state, Gen. Olusegun Obasanjo, talking to Emily Casreal. On our line is our Lagos correspondent Janet Anderson. Now we have just heard Gen. Obasanjo saying that he feels Head of State Gen. Sani Abacha is not actually averse to the release of Chief Abiola. How significant is such a statement?

[Anderson] Well, I think it has been clear that the government would like to release M.K.O Abiola. They have got themselves into rather a difficult position, with so many demonstrations and strikes going on, calling for his release. But now we are in a position where there are some kind of conditions to be met, and it is unclear whether M.K.O. [Abiola] himself will be prepared to abide by any conditions.

[Kayode] Is there any idea as to what these conditions could be?

[Anderson] The conditions for the release of M.K.O. Abiola that we have heard so far from the government—the ones that they have put to the labor leaders—were that he would be required to keep the peace, which would be, presumably, in some way not making statements saying that he is president of Nigeria and, as I say, I think it is very unclear whether Chief Abiola would be prepared to abide by such a condition.

[Kayode] We know that Gen. Obasanjo is a power broker, and how much influence do you think he would have in this situation?

[Anderson] Difficult to say. He has definitely got some influence, but he is in a difficult position himself. He was actually very critical of this military government earlier this year, so it is quite interesting to see that he is going in to negotiate with them, and in the disturbances that we have seen in the southwest during this week Gen. Obasanjo's own house was attack in Abaokouta, so maybe he isn't quite so influential in the whole of the southwest as he would like to believe.

[Kayode] Gen. Obasanjo mentioned NADECO as an important part of the executive committee involved in negotiations. NADECO has traditionally supported Abiola, so what sort of role are they playing now?

[Anderson] As far as we can see, the National Democratic Coalition is continuing that line to support Chief Abiola. They say that they have been in informal contacts with the government, that they also are attempting to negotiate with them on Chief Abiola's release, but they say that they want to actually talk to Chief Abiola first before they go into proper discussions with the government, so that they are not ticked off separately. They want to make sure that they are in line with the kind of things that Chief Abiola wants himself. So I think they are still pretty much in support of him.

[Kayode] So as far you can tell, can we actually say that Nigeria is on the road to a solution of this crisis?

[Anderson] I think what we can say at this point, which is different from last week, is that there are many moves; there are many bits of negotiation going on at different levels; that the government is talking to people to try to find some way out, but I still think they have got a long way to go because I don't see the government's reported conditions for the release of Chief Abiola actually being acceptable, and then we are really back to square one again.

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